

Application

Federal Award Identification Number (FAIN)	NC-2025-003-00
Temporary Application Number	1005-2023-10
Award Name	FY 22 Rural Surface Transportation Grant - Mobility for Everyone, Everywhere in North Carolina (MEE NC)
Application Status	Final Concurrence / Reservation
Application Budget Number	0

Period of Performance Start Date	N/A		
Original Period of Performance End Date	3/30/2028		
Current Period of Performance End Date	3/30/2028	Revision #: 0	Approved?: No

Budget Period Start Date	N/A		
Budget Period End Date	3/30/2028		

Part 1: Recipient Information

Name: NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Recipient ID	Recipient OST Type	Recipient Alias	UEI	DUNS
1005	State Agency	NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION	TPF3F49RKAZ3	948614169

Location Type	Address	City	State	Zip
Physical Address	1 SOUTH WILMINGTON STREET	RALEIGH	NC	27601
Mailing Address	NCDOT - PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION DIVISION	RALEIGH	NC	27699

Union Information

Union Name	AMALGAMATED TRANSIT UNION
Address 1	5025 Winsonsin Avenue, NW
Address 2	
City	Washington
State	District of Columbia
Zipcode	20016
Contact Name	Meghan Ritson
Telephone	2025371645
Fax	2022447824
E-mail	
Website	

Union Name	AMALGAMATED TRANSIT UNION
Address 1	5025 Wisconsin Avenue, NW
Address 2	
City	Washington
State	District of Columbia
Zipcode	20016
Contact Name	Leo Wetzel
Telephone	2025371645
Fax	2022447824
E-mail	
Website	

Union Name	NONE
Address 1	
Address 2	
City	
State	
Zipcode	00000
Contact Name	
Telephone	
Fax	00000
E-mail	
Website	

Union Name	UNITED TRANSPORTATION UNION
Address 1	Local # 36
Address 2	204 Forest Manor Drive
City	Garner
State	North Carolina
Zipcode	27529

Contact Name	R.H. Westbrook, Jr.
Telephone	9197794852
Fax	
E-mail	
Website	
Union Name UNITED TRANSPORTATION UNION	
Address 1	14600 Detroit Avenue
Address 2	
City	Cleveland
State	Ohio
Zipcode	44107
Contact Name	Victor Baffoni
Telephone	2162289400
Fax	
E-mail	
Website	

Part 2: Application Information

Title: FY 22 Rural Surface Transportation Grant - Mobility for Everyone, Everywhere in North Carolina (MEE NC)

FAIN	Application Status	Award Type	Application Cost Center	Date Created	Last Updated Date	From TEAM?
NC-2025-003-00	Final Concurrence / Reservation	Grant	Region 4	4/11/2023	4/11/2023	No

Application Executive Summary

This application requests 2022 Rural Surface Transportation discretionary grant funding to North Carolina Dept of Transportation. NCDOT was awarded \$10,400,000 in Rural Surface Transportation funding and will be matched with \$10,844,500 in state and local funds. A Paper Grant Agreement (PGA) was completed during this process to ensure that all federal regulations are captured through this Rural Surface Transportation discretionary grant.

The project will expand on-demand transit services for up to 11 rural communities across North Carolina. Based on the existing service models and investments in on-demand transit for each community, the 11 participating systems were categorized into three tiers. This project will be implementing microtransit in two primary methods for the 11 communities contained in this grant, Software as a Service (SaaS) or Transportation as a Service (TaaS), also known as Turnkey. This SaaS communities will be able to acquire microtransit software to support the new and expanded on-demand transit service in their seven communities. The remaining four communities will utilize turnkey contracting services for microtransit implementation in their areas.

Software as a Service (SaaS), technology-enabled transit service that typically uses shuttles or vans to provide pooled responsive transit with dynamic routing:

- Seven first-tier communities contained in the grant (Johnston County, McDowell County, Kerr Area Transportation Service, Randolph County, Alamance County, Tar River Transit, Rockingham County) will receive additional scheduling software to help those communities implement microtransit service.

Transportation as a Service (TaaS), or Turnkey:

- Four second and third tier communities in the grant (City of Wilson, Salisbury Transit, City of Sanford, Cape Fear Public Transportation) will receive funding to hire a third-party transit operator to provide turnkey services.

The PGA, applicable STIP/TIP information, along with the original Rural Surface Transportation Grant application/award information has been attached to this application. In addition, the fully executed signed PGA is attached to this application.

Frequency of Milestone Progress Reports (MPR)

Quarterly

Frequency of Federal Financial Reports (FFR)

Quarterly

Does this application include funds for research and/or development activities?

This award does not include research and development activities.

Pre-Award Authority

This award is not using Pre-Award Authority.

Does this application include suballocation funds?

Recipient organization is the Designated Recipient and can apply for and receive these apportioned funds.

Will this Grant be using Lapsing Funds?

No, this Grant does not use Lapsing Funds.

Will indirect costs be applied to this application?

This award does not include an indirect cost rate.

Indirect Rate Details: N/A

Requires E.O. 12372 Review

No, this application does not require E.O. 12372 Review.

Delinquent Federal Debt

No, my organization does not have delinquent federal debt.

Award Description

Purpose

The purpose of this award is to provide the North Carolina Dept of Transportation Rural Surface Transportation grant funding granted in 2022. The project will expand on-demand transit services for up to 11 rural communities across North Carolina. This includes software deployment and vehicle acquisition to support the new and expanded on-demand transit service.

This project will fund On-Demand Mobility Services, or microtransit in 11 communities throughout North Carolina. Based on the existing service models and investments in on-demand transit for each community, the 11 participating systems were categorized into three tiers. This project will be implementing

microtransit in two primary methods for the 11 communities contained in this grant, Software as a Service (SaaS) or Transportation as a Service (TaaS), also known as Turnkey.

Activities to be performed:

This project will be implementing microtransit in two primary methods for the 11 communities contained in this grant, Software as a Service (SaaS) or Transportation as a Service (TaaS), also known as Turnkey. Software as a Service (SaaS), technology-enabled transit service that typically uses shuttles or vans to provide pooled responsive transit with dynamic routing:

- Seven first-tier communities contained in the grant (Johnston County, McDowell County, Kerr Area Transportation Service, Randolph County, Alamance County, Tar River Transit, Rockingham County) will receive additional scheduling software to help those communities implement microtransit service.

Transportation as a Service (TaaS), or Turnkey:

- Four second and third tier communities in the grant (City of Wilson, Salisbury Transit, City of Sanford, Cape Fear Public Transportation) will receive funding to hire a third-party transit operator to provide turnkey services,

Expected outcomes:

This project modernizes public transportation by introducing Software as a Service (SaaS) and turnkey on-demand models (TaaS), thereby extends useful life of transit agency vehicles and equipment through more efficient use of vehicles and equipment. For the systems that provide turnkey service, vehicles will be leased so they are provided by the service provider and regularly refreshed, leading to a modern and safe vehicle fleet, and addressing the current shortage in vehicles that many transit agencies are facing, forcing them to delay vehicle purchases to expand or upgrade their fleet. The useful life may be extended by up to two years for some vehicles and capital equipment.

Intended beneficiaries:

This project will be a major benefit for transit riders in these 11 communities, namely, Johnston County, McDowell County, Kerr Area Transportation Service, Randolph County, Alamance County, Tar River Transit, Rockingham County, City of Wilson, Salisbury Transit, City of Sanford, and Cape Fear Public Transportation.

Subrecipient Activities:

11 communities, namely, Johnston County, McDowell County, Kerr Area Transportation Service, Randolph County, Alamance County, Tar River Transit, Rockingham County, City of Wilson, Salisbury Transit, City of Sanford, and Cape Fear Public Transportation.

Application Point of Contact Information

First Name	Last Name	Title	E-mail Address	Phone
Michael	Sherman	Community Planner	michael.sherman@dot.gov	(404) 865-5616
Jennifer	Hibbert	Senior Transit and Rail Planner	ext-jkhibbert@ncdot.gov	(404) 469-0946

Application Budget Control Totals

Funding Source	Section of Statute	CFDA Number	Amount
5311 FHWA Xfers Non-ER Rural Area	5311-12	20509	\$10,400,000
Local			\$0
Local/In-Kind			\$0

State		\$10,844,500
State/In-Kind		\$0
Other Federal		\$0
Transportation Development Credit		\$0
Adjustment		\$0
Total Eligible Cost		\$21,244,500

Application Budget

Project Number	Budget Item	FTA Amount	Non-FTA Amount	Total Eligible Amount	Quantity
NC-2025-003-01-00	114-00 (114-A1) BUS: SUPPORT EQUIP AND FACILITIES	\$3,804,400.00	\$951,100.00	\$4,755,500.00	7
NC-2025-003-01-00	11.42.08 ACQUIRE - ADP SOFTWARE	\$3,804,400.00	\$951,100.00	\$4,755,500.00	7
NC-2025-003-01-00	117-00 (117-A2) OTHER CAPITAL ITEMS (BUS)	\$6,595,600.00	\$9,893,400.00	\$16,489,000.00	0
NC-2025-003-01-00	11.71.12 CAPITAL COST OF 3RD PARTY CONTRACTING	\$6,595,600.00	\$9,893,400.00	\$16,489,000.00	0

Discretionary Allocations

This application does not contain discretionary allocations.

Part 3: Project Information

Project Title: Rural Surface Transportation Grant 2022 Grant

Project Number	Temporary Project Number	Date Created	Start Date	End Date
NC-2025-003-01-00	1005-2023-10-P1	7/3/2024	12/31/2024	12/31/2027

Project Description

This project requests 2022 Rural Surface Transportation Grant funding. This project will fund On-Demand Mobility Services, or microtransit in 11 communities throughout North Carolina. Based on the existing service models and investments in on-demand transit for each community, the 11 participating systems were categorized into three tiers. This project will be implementing microtransit in two primary methods for the 11 communities contained in this grant, Software as a Service (SaaS) or Transportation as a Service (TaaS), also known as Turnkey.

Project Benefits

This project will be implementing microtransit in two primary methods for the 11 communities contained in this grant, Software as a Service (SaaS) or Transportation as a Service (TaaS), also known as Turnkey.

Software as a Service (SaaS), technology-enabled transit service that typically uses shuttles or vans to provide pooled responsive transit with dynamic routing:

- Seven first-tier communities contained in the grant (Johnston County, McDowell County, Kerr Area Transportation Service, Randolph County, Alamance County, Tar River Transit, Rockingham County) will receive additional scheduling software to help those communities implement microtransit service.

Transportation as a Service (TaaS), or Turnkey:

- Four second and third tier communities in the grant (City of Wilson, Salisbury Transit, City of Sanford, Cape Fear Public Transportation) will receive funding to hire a third-party transit operator to provide turnkey services.

(Second tier: projects are in communities where significant investments in planning and operating have been made. Third tier: communities demonstrating a high level of demographic need.)

This project modernizes public transportation by introducing Software as a Service (SaaS) and turnkey on-demand models (TaaS), thereby extends useful life of transit agency vehicles and equipment through more efficient use of vehicles and equipment. For the systems that provide turnkey service, vehicles will be leased so they are provided by the service provider and regularly refreshed, leading to a modern and safe vehicle fleet, and addressing the current shortage in vehicles that many transit agencies are facing, forcing them to delay vehicle purchases to expand or upgrade their fleet. The useful life may be extended by up to two years for some vehicles and capital equipment.

Additional Information

None provided.

Location Description

The project will expand on-demand transit services for up to 11 rural communities across North Carolina. The 11 communities are Johnston County, McDowell County, Kerr Area Transportation Service, Randolph County, Alamance County, Tar River Transit, Rockingham County, City of Wilson, Salisbury Transit, City of Sanford, Cape Fear Public Transportation.

Project Location (Urbanized Areas)

UZA Code	Area Name
370000	North Carolina

Congressional District Information

District	State
1	North Carolina
2	North Carolina
3	North Carolina
4	North Carolina
5	North Carolina
6	North Carolina
7	North Carolina
8	North Carolina
9	North Carolina
10	North Carolina

11	North Carolina
12	North Carolina
13	North Carolina
14	North Carolina

Program Plan Information

STIP/TIP

Date: N/A

Description: N/A

UPWP

Date: N/A

Description: N/A

Long Range Plan

Date: N/A

Description: N/A

Project Control Totals

Funding Source	Section of Statute	CFDA Number	Amount
5311 FHWA Xfers Non-ER Rural Area	5311-12	20509	\$10,400,000
Local			\$0
Local/In-Kind			\$0
State			\$10,844,500
State/In-Kind			\$0
Other Federal			\$0
Transportation Development Credit			\$0
Adjustment			\$0
Total Eligible Cost			\$21,244,500

Project Budget

Project Number	Budget Item	FTA Amount	Non-FTA Amount	Total Eligible Amount	Quantity
NC-2025-003-01-00	114-00 BUS: SUPPORT EQUIP AND FACILITIES (114-A1)	\$3,804,400.00	\$951,100.00	\$4,755,500.00	7
NC-2025-003-01-00	11.42.08 ACQUIRE - ADP SOFTWARE	\$3,804,400.00	\$951,100.00	\$4,755,500.00	7
NC-2025-	117- OTHER CAPITAL ITEMS	\$6,595,600.00	\$9,893,400.00	\$16,489,000.00	0

003-01-00	00 (117- A2)	(BUS)					
NC-2025- 003-01-00		11.71.12	CAPITAL COST OF 3RD PARTY CONTRACTING	\$6,595,600.00	\$9,893,400.00	\$16,489,000.00	0

Project Budget Activity Line Items

Budget Activity Line Item: 11.42.08 - ACQUIRE - ADP SOFTWARE

Scope Name / Code	Line Item #	Line Item Name	Activity	Quantity
BUS: SUPPORT EQUIP AND FACILITIES (114-00)	11.42.08	ACQUIRE - ADP SOFTWARE	ACQUISITION OF BUS SUPPORT EQUIP/FACILITIES	7

Extended Budget Description

This project will fund On-Demand Mobility Services, or microtransit in 11 communities throughout North Carolina. Based on the existing service models and investments in on demand transit for each community, the 11 participating systems were categorized into three tiers.

This project will be implementing microtransit in two primary methods for the 11 communities contained in this grant, Software as a Service (SaaS) or Transportation as a Service (TaaS), also known as Turnkey. This particular ALI will purchase software for systems. Software as a Service (SaaS), technology-enabled transit service that typically uses shuttles or vans to provide pooled responsive transit with dynamic routing:

- Seven first-tier communities contained in the grant (Johnston County, McDowell County, Kerr Area Transportation Service, Randolph County, Alamance County, Tar River Transit, Rockingham County) will receive additional scheduling software to help those communities implement microtransit service.

The signed PGA for this project notes that new scheduling software will be purchased for these seven systems.

The useful life for this software is 5 years.

Will 3rd Party contractors be used to fulfill this activity line item?

Yes, 3rd Party Contractors will be used for this line item.

Funding Source	Section of Statute	CFDA Number	Amount
5311 FHWA Xfers Non-ER Rural Area	5311-12	20509	\$3,804,400
Local			\$0
Local/In-Kind			\$0
State			\$951,100
State/In-Kind			\$0

Other Federal		\$0
Transportation Development Credit		\$0
Adjustment		\$0
Total Eligible Cost		\$4,755,500

Milestone Name	Est. Completion Date	Description
Procurement and Contracting	12/31/2024	Procurement and Contracting will have Begun
Deployment End Date	10/31/2026	Deployment of Software has been Completed and is Underway
IMD On-Demand Roundtable	3/31/2027	Participation in the IMD On-Demand Roundtable End Date
Public Engagement	12/31/2027	Public Engagement End Date

Budget Activity Line Item: 11.71.12 - CAPITAL COST OF 3RD PARTY CONTRACTING

Scope Name / Code	Line Item #	Line Item Name	Activity	Quantity
OTHER CAPITAL ITEMS (BUS) (117-00)	11.71.12	CAPITAL COST OF 3RD PARTY CONTRACTING	3RD PARTY CONTRACTS	0

Extended Budget Description

This project will fund On-Demand Mobility Services, or microtransit in 11 communities throughout North Carolina. Based on the existing service models and investments in on demand transit for each community, the 11 participating systems were categorized into three tiers. This project will be implementing microtransit in two primary methods for the 11 communities contained in this grant, Software as a Service (SaaS) or Transportation as a Service (TaaS), also known as Turnkey.

Transportation as a Service (TaaS), or Turnkey: - Four second and third tier communities in the grant (City of Wilson, Salisbury Transit, City of Sanford, Cape Fear Public Transportation) will receive funding to hire a third-party transit operator to provide turnkey services,

Each of the four systems will receive funding to hire a third-party transit operator to provide turnkey microtransit services for their communities.

Per C 9040.1G, Type 6 - Turnkey Contract (contractor provides vehicles, maintenance, and transit service) will be utilized for this ALI. The federal participation is 40% of the total project cost or 50% of the total cost is eligible for 80% federal participation.

Will 3rd Party contractors be used to fulfill this activity line item?

Yes, 3rd Party Contractors will be used for this line item.

Funding Source	Section of Statute	CFDA Number	Amount
5311 FHWA Xfers Non-ER Rural Area	5311-12	20509	\$6,595,600
Local			\$0
Local/In-Kind			\$0
State			\$9,893,400
State/In-Kind			\$0
Other Federal			\$0
Transportation Development Credit			\$0
Adjustment			\$0
Total Eligible Cost			\$16,489,000

Milestone Name	Est. Completion Date	Description
Procurement and Contracting	12/31/2024	Procurement and Contracting will have Begun
Deployment End Date	10/31/2026	Deployment of Software has been Completed and is Underway
IMD On-Demand Roundtable	3/31/2027	Participation in the IMD On-Demand Roundtable End Date
Public Engagement	12/31/2027	Public Engagement End Date

Project Environmental Findings

Finding: Class II(c) - Categorical Exclusions (C-List)

Class Level Description

Class II(c) consists of projects that do not have a significant environmental impact on the human or natural environment and are therefore categorically excluded from the requirement to prepare an environmental assessment or an environmental impact statement. FTA requires a sufficient project description to support a CE determination. The project may require additional documentation to comply with other environmental laws.

Categorical Exclusion Description

Type 07: Acquisition, installation, rehabilitation, replacement, and maintenance of vehicles or equipment, within or accommodated by existing facilities, that does not result in a change in functional use of the facilities, such as: equipment to be located within existing facilities and with no substantial off-site impacts; and vehicles, including buses, rail cars, trolley cars, ferry boats and people movers that can be accommodated by existing facilities or by new facilities that qualify for a categorical exclusion.

Date	Description
	Class IIc CE Approved

Scope Name / Code	Line Item Number	Line Item Name	Quantity	FTA Amount	Total Eligible Cost
BUS: SUPPORT EQUIP	11.42.08	ACQUIRE - ADP	7	\$3,804,400.00	\$4,755,500.00

AND FACILITIES (114-00)

SOFTWARE

Finding: Class II(c) - Categorical Exclusions (C-List)

Class Level Description

Class II(c) consists of projects that do not have a significant environmental impact on the human or natural environment and are therefore categorically excluded from the requirement to prepare an environmental assessment or an environmental impact statement. FTA requires a sufficient project description to support a CE determination. The project may require additional documentation to comply with other environmental laws.

Categorical Exclusion Description

Type 07: Acquisition, installation, rehabilitation, replacement, and maintenance of vehicles or equipment, within or accommodated by existing facilities, that does not result in a change in functional use of the facilities, such as: equipment to be located within existing facilities and with no substantial off-site impacts; and vehicles, including buses, rail cars, trolley cars, ferry boats and people movers that can be accommodated by existing facilities or by new facilities that qualify for a categorical exclusion.

Date	Description	Date
	Class IIc CE Approved	

Scope Name / Code	Line Item Number	Line Item Name	Quantity	FTA Amount	Total Eligible Cost
OTHER CAPITAL ITEMS (BUS) (117-00)	11.71.12	CAPITAL COST OF 3RD PARTY CONTRACTING	0	\$6,595,600.00	\$16,489,000.00

Part 4: Fleet Details

No fleet data exists for this application.

Part 5: FTA Review Comments

FTA Comments for DOL

Comment By Michael Sherman

Comment Type DOL Review for Certification

Date 11/26/2024

Comment Sent to DOL for information 11/26/2024.

Application Review Comments

Comment By Guanying Lei

Comment Type Application Details

Date	9/16/2024
Comment	<p>Technical Review Comments:</p> <p>1) 11.42.08 i) Based on the description of the activities, it doesn't look like that the activities are to acquire software. If it is capital cost of contracting (CCC), 11.71.12 is the ALI for the CCC. ii) Per C 9040.1G, for Type 6 - Turnkey Contract (contractor provides vehicles, maintenance, and transit service), only 50% of the total cost is eligible for 80% federal participation. Please add narrative to clarify the type of the CCC and to note the federal share in the application approved by OST.</p> <p>2) 11.71.12 Per C 9040.1G, for Type 6 - Turnkey Contract (contractor provides vehicles, maintenance, and transit service), only 50% of the total cost is eligible for 80% federal participation. Please add narrative to clarify the type of the CCC and to note the federal share in the application approved by OST.</p>

Application Review Comments

Comment By Michael Sherman

Comment Type	Pre-Award Manager Returns Application
Date	9/16/2024
Comment	<p>1) 11.42.08 i) Based on the description of the activities, it doesn't look like that the activities are to acquire software. If it is capital cost of contracting (CCC), 11.71.12 is the ALI for the CCC. ii) Per C 9040.1G, for Type 6 - Turnkey Contract (contractor provides vehicles, maintenance, and transit service), only 50% of the total cost is eligible for 80% federal participation. Please add narrative to clarify the type of the CCC and to note the federal share in the application approved by OST.</p> <p>2) 11.71.12 Per C 9040.1G, for Type 6 - Turnkey Contract (contractor provides vehicles, maintenance, and transit service), only 50% of the total cost is eligible for 80% federal participation. Please add narrative to clarify the type of the CCC and to note the federal share in the application approved by OST.</p>

Comment By Michael Sherman

Comment Type	Pre-Award Manager Returns Application
Date	9/20/2024
Comment	

Comment By Michael Sherman

Comment	Pre-Award Manager Returns Application
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Type

Date	11/18/2024
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Comment Comments concerning software useful life and quantity (11.42.08) dated 9/18/2024 have not been addressed. Please revise and retransmit.

Application Review Comments

Comment By Guanying Lei

Comment Type Line Item Review

Date	9/18/2024
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Project Title Rural Surface Transportation Grant 2022 Grant

Project Number	NC-2025-003-01-00
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(With Respect to Line Item: 11.42.08)

Comment Additional Technical Review Comments:

- 1) Please add useful life for the software
- 2) Please indicate the quantity